

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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22

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 L-03 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 IO-11

JUSE-00 NSAE-00 SNM-02 TRSE-00 USIA-15 NSC-05 OES-05

OMB-01 /067 W

----- 043530

R 261225Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY KABUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5946

USDOC WASHDC

UNCLAS KABUL 0628

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR, AF

SUBJ: POSSIBLE SALE OF AFGHAN SEIZED OPIUM

REF: KABUL 0060

1. MR. PAUL R. BUTTERWECK, PURCHASING DIRECTOR OF MERCK & CO.,
RAHWAY, NEW JERSEY, HAS CONTACTED AFGHAN MINISTRY OF COMMERCE
CONCERNING MORPHINE CONTENT OF CONFISCATED OPIUM.

2. MINISTRY OF COMMERCE INFORMS US THAT MORPHINE CONTENT OF PRE-
VIOUS CONFISCATIONS OF OPIUM HAS RUN 12 TO 13 PERCENT BUT THAT A
LABORATORY ANALYSIS OF PRESENT SUPPLY HAS NOT YET BEEN DONE. DATE
FOR BID OPENING HAS NOT YET BEEN SET BUT WHEN ANNOUNCED WILL IN-
CLUDE DETAILS CONCERNING MORPHINE CONTENT. PURCHASE LICENSE WILL
BE REQUIRED TO BE ELIGIBLE TO BID. COMMERCE MINISTRY ALSO STATES
THAT OFFERING MAY AMOUNT TO EIGHT TONS OF OPIUM RATHER
THAN FIVE TONS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED.

3. SUGGEST THAT COMPANIES INTERESTED IN PURCHASING CONFISCATED
OPIUM SUBMIT PRELIMINARY OFFERS BASED ON VARIOUS PERCENTAGES OF
MORPHINE CONTENT.

4. REQUEST DEPARTMENT PASS MESSAGE TO MERCK AND COMPANY,
MALLINKRODT, AND ANY OTHER INTERESTED COMPANIES.

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ELIOT

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: OPIUM, SALES, DRUG SEIZURES
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Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 JAN 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
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Errors: N/A
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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